IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-31 (Cancelled)

32. (New) A communication method, comprising:

transmitting, during one of a plurality of offset periods, a channel access request that is encoded by a first scrambling code;

receiving a channel grant that identifies the first scrambling code; and

selecting a second scrambling code for use in communicating information over the granted channel based on the particular one of the plurality of offset periods used to communicate the channel access request.

33. (New) The communication method of claim 32, wherein:

the second scrambling code is selected in accordance with the expression k=j*m+r, where

k identifies a particular one of a plurality of prospective scrambling codes that may be selected for the second scrambling code,

j identifies the particular one of the plurality of offset periods during which the channel access request was communicated,

m is an integer greater than 1 that identifies a permissible number of concurrently granted channels, and

r indexes the channel grant within a plurality of communicated channel grants.

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34. (New) The communication method of claim 33 wherein the value of m is selected to accord with an acceptable amount of communication interference among the concurrently granted channels.

35. (New) The communication method of claim 32 further comprising:

selecting a distinct second scrambling code for each of a plurality of channels granted by a plurality of communicated channel grants, wherein

the granted channels derive a substantial degree of orthogonality from one another through the selected second scrambling codes.

36. (New) A communication system, comprising:

a first terminal that communicates, during one of a plurality of offset periods, a channel access request that is encoded by a first scrambling code; and

a second terminal that receives the channel access request and communicates to the first terminal a channel grant that identifies the first scrambling code, wherein

the second terminal selects a second scrambling code for use in communicating information over the granted channel based on the particular one of the plurality of offset periods used to communicate the channel access request.

37. (New) The communication system of claim 36, wherein:

the second terminal selects the second scrambling code in accordance with the expression k=j*m+r, where:

k identifies a particular one of a plurality of prospective scrambling codes that may be selected for the second scrambling code,

j identifies the particular one of the plurality of offset periods during which the channel access request was communicated,

m is an integer greater than 1 that identifies a permissible number of concurrently granted channels, and

r indexes the channel grant within a plurality of communicated channel grants.

38. (New) The communication system of claim 37 wherein the value of m is selected to accord with an acceptable amount of communication interference among the concurrently granted channels.

39. (New) The communication system of claim 36 further comprising:

a third terminal that selects a different second scrambling code than that selected by the first terminal, for communicating information on a different channel granted by the second terminal, wherein

the granted channels derive a substantial degree of orthogonality from one another through the selected second scrambling codes.